



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
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### **Idaho 2008 Potato Crop Revised Up; Idaho 2009 Sugarbeet Production Up**

Final disposition numbers show Idaho's 2008 potato crop totalling 116 million cwt, an increase of 1.5 percent from earlier estimates, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field run yield of 383 cwt is 5 cwt more than the previous estimate and 10 cwt more than the 2007 crop's yield. Harvested area for the 2008 crop was 304,000 acres, unchanged from the previous estimate. For the 2009 potato crop, preliminary data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey shows that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 56.7 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Ranger Russets account for 15.4 percent of plantings, and Russet Norkotah is 13.4 percent of the total. Premier Russet, at 2.9 percent, and Western Russet, at 2.4 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2009 crop.

Nationally, production of 2008 fall potatoes is finalized at 379 million cwt, 7 percent below the 2007 crop, and 5 percent below 2006. Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2008 totalled 415 million cwt, down 7 percent from 2007 and 6 percent below 2006.

Idaho's 2009 sugarbeet production is forecast to be 5.56 million tons, unchanged from the August forecast, but up 54 percent from a year ago. Yield of 34.1 tons per acre is up from 2008's 31.2 tons per acre. Harvested acreage is expected to total 163,000 acres, up 47,000 acres from 2008.

United States' sugarbeet production for 2009 is forecast at 31.3 million tons, 4 percent below the August forecast but up 17 percent from last year's production of 26.8 million tons. Growers expect to harvest 1.16 million acres, up 15 percent from last year. The yield is forecast at 27.0 tons per acre, up 0.3 tons from 2008.

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